

**Opening Statement of Chairman Fred Upton  
Subcommittee on Health Hearing  
“Reauthorization of Animal Drug User Fees: ADUFA and AGDUFA”  
Tuesday, April 9, 2013**

Thank you for holding today’s hearing on the reauthorization of the Animal Drug User Fee Act (ADUFA) and the Animal Generic Drug User Fee Act (AGDUFA).

Congress first created ADUFA back in 2003 and AGDUFA in 2008. Together, these programs have yielded many benefits for the American people. They have ensured that veterinarians, livestock producers, poultry producers and pet owners have access to new and affordable animal drugs to keep their animals healthy. They have assisted animal drug producers by fostering a stable and predictable FDA review process. Finally, they have helped American consumers by keeping the food supply safe.

For companies like Zoetis, which employs over 700 folks in my district, these programs are essential for them to keep producing top of the line drugs for pets and livestock.

I was fortunate enough to be the lead House sponsor of the original ADUFA

legislation in 2003, and it is great to see how successful it has been and how many Americans it has helped.

I believe there is bipartisan, bicameral interest in getting these user fees reauthorized well before they expire at the end of September. I intend to do all I can to make this reauthorization effort bipartisan, and I look forward to working with my Democratic colleagues on these bills.

I thank John Shimkus and Cory Gardner for their leadership on ADUFA and AGDUFA, respectively.